CLAIMS:

1. A method of encoding a video picture, the method comprising:
- for a segment of the video picture determining if the segment can be reconstructed from at least another video picture based on motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture;
- if the segment cannot be reconstructed, encoding the segment; and
- otherwise skipping the segment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the segment comprises a macroblock.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the encoding comprises using a coding scheme compliant with one of ISO and ITU video compression standards.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the coding scheme complies with MPEG-2 and wherein the determining comprises:
- decoding an encoded B-picture;
- generating a further picture using motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture;
- determining a difference per macroblock between the decoded B-picture and the further picture; and
- evaluating the difference under control of a consistency measure of motion vectors associated with the further picture.

5. An electronic device comprising an encoder for encoding a video picture, wherein the encoder is configured to determine for a segment of the picture if the segment can be reconstructed from at least another video picture based on motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture; and wherein the encoder encodes the segment if the segment cannot be reconstructed, and skips the segment otherwise.

6. The device of claim 5, wherein the segment comprises a macroblock.

7. The device of claim 5, wherein the encoder is configured to use a coding scheme compliant with one of ISO and ITU video compression standards.

8. The device of claim 7, wherein the coding scheme complies with MPEG-2 and wherein the encoder comprises:

- a decoder for decoding an encoded B-picture;
- a generator for generating a further picture using motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture;
- a comparator for determining a difference per macroblock between the decoded B-picture and the further picture; and
- an evaluator for evaluating the difference under control of a consistency measure of motion vectors associated with the further picture.

9. A method of decoding an encoded video picture, the method comprising:

- determining if a segment of the picture is missing; and
- if the segment is missing, reconstructing the segment from motion-compensated interpolation applied to at least another video picture.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the segment comprises a macroblock.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the video picture is encoded using a coding scheme compliant with one of ISO and ITU video compression standards.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein:

- decoding the picture comprises using an MPEG-2 skipped-macroblock condition; and
- writing data, generated by the motion-compensated interpolation to reconstruct the macroblock, over further data generated under the skipped-macroblock condition.

13. An electronic device comprising a decoder for decoding an encoded video picture, the decoder being operative to reconstruct a missing segment of the video picture based on motion-compensated interpolation applied to at least another video picture.

14. The device of claim 13, wherein the missing segment comprises a macroblock.

15. The device of claim 13, configured to decode the picture encoded using a coding scheme compliant with one of ISO and ITU video compression standards.

16. The device of claim 14, configured to decode the picture using a skipped-macroblock condition; and operative to write data, generated by the motion-compensated interpolation to reconstruct the macroblock, over further data generated under the skipped-macroblock condition.

17. Control software for installing on an electronic device for decoding a video picture from which a segment is missing, the software being configured to reconstruct the segment based on motion compensated interpolation applied to at least another video picture.

18. Control software for installing on an electronic device for encoding a video picture, the software being configured to determine for a segment of the picture if the segment can be reconstructed from at least another video picture based on motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture; and to control the encoding so as to have the segment encoded if the segment cannot be reconstructed, and to have the segment skipped otherwise.

19. Electronic video content information encoded such that at decoding at least one segment of at least one picture is to be reconstructed using motion-compensated interpolation performed on at least one other picture.

20. The method of claim 3, wherein the coding scheme complies with MPEG-2 and wherein the determining comprises:

- generating a further picture using motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture;
- determining a difference per macroblock between the further picture and the video picture; and
- evaluating the difference under control of a consistency measure of motion vectors associated with the further picture.

21. The device of claim 7, wherein the coding scheme complies with MPEG-2 and wherein the encoder comprises:

- a generator for generating a further picture using motion-compensated interpolation applied to the other video picture;
- a comparator for determining a difference per macroblock between the further picture and the video picture; and
- an evaluator for evaluating the difference under control of a consistency measure of motion vectors associated with the further picture.